



STATE SENATOR
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INFO & NEWS

from the

Indiana Senate

Money-Saving Tips: Conserve Gasoline



Over the past several months, Hoosiers have seen gas prices rise substantially, putting a real strain on budgets.

I have compiled a list of gas saving tips that will help reduce the amount of gas you use.

If you need more information on other gasoline resources, visit the attorney general's website at www.indianaconsumer.com

Drive Sensibly: Speeding, rapid acceleration and braking can lower your gasoline mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town.

Observe the Speed Limit: Each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional 10 cents per gallon for gasoline.

Avoid Excessive Idling: Idling gets zero miles per gallon, and cars with larger engines generally waste more gas at idle.

Use Cruise Control: Cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and will save you gasoline.

Use Overdrive Gears: Using overdrive gearing slows your car's engine speeds, which saves gasoline and reduces engine wear.

Check & Replace Air Filters: Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your car's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent.

Keep Tires Properly Inflated: Keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressures can improve your gas mileage by around 3 percent.

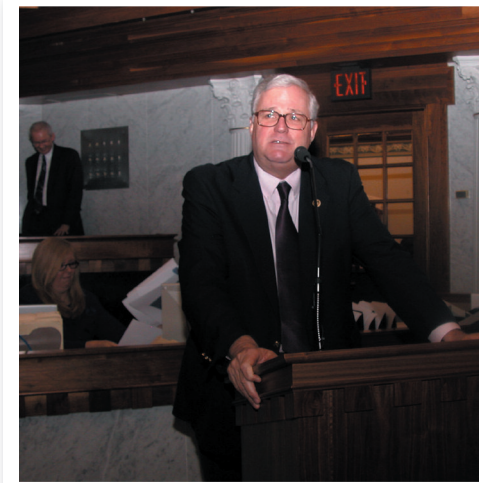
Use Recommended Grade of Motor Oil: Using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil can improve your gas mileage by 1 to 2 percent.



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PAUL**

Serving District 27
in Wayne, Randolph & Jay Counties



Sen. Paul addresses the Senate during this past session. A decorated Vietnam veteran, Paul is currently serving on the Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs.

Did You Know...?

... that the Indiana Senate spent prudently this past year, resulting in a return of \$903,572.84 to the state's General Fund at the end of Fiscal Year 2006. This is more than four times the amount reverted in FY 2005.

... that on June 30, 2006, the state officially overcame a \$600 million deficit and closed its books for the fiscal year with a balanced budget for the first time in a decade?

*How to contact
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Job Creation Legislation Proves Successful

— More jobs for Hoosiers are on the way —

Although the last two legislative sessions have been filled with substantial changes to the way Indiana does business, a priority in the Senate has been job creation. Although government actions cannot create jobs overnight, Indiana is beginning to see results just one year after the major economic development laws of 2005 were implemented.

In 2005, the General Assembly sped up and streamlined the creation of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), created tax breaks for research and development, passed a shovel-ready site development plan and expanded existing tax credits. The result: 85,000 more Hoosiers are working than in January 2005 and unemployment is at a low 4.9 percent.

More jobs are on the way. Recent job announcements include:

- **Honda announcing a \$550 million plant that will employ 2,000 people in Greensburg (the plant will have capacity for 4,000 employees)**

- **American Commercial Lines agreeing to create 1,100 jobs in Jeffersonville**

- **Federal Express announcing a \$200 million expansion creating 800 new jobs in Indianapolis**

- **Rolls Royce committing to bring 600 aerospace jobs to Indianapolis**

- **Pfizer deciding to create 450 jobs in Terre Haute**

- **American General Financial Services expanding its corporate headquarters to create 150 new jobs in Evansville**

- **Arbonne International opening a 400-employee distribution center in Greenwood.**

- **Nestle selecting Anderson for a 300-job facility**

- **Sallie Mae announcing 700 new jobs in Muncie**

Many other announcements have occurred in the past 18 months, many more are expected in the future, and I am committed to continuing to create a job-friendly environment here in Indiana.

FOCUS SHIFTS TO EDUCATION

General Assembly Expects to Debate Funding, Kindergarten in 2007

In 2005, the General Assembly made an important change to the way our K-12 schools are funded. We instituted a new formula, which other states are now trying to emulate, that allows a school's appropriations to rise and fall in proportion to enrollment.

This year, we passed legislation that makes it easier for schools to save money by giving them more flexibility in the way they make purchases. The money that is saved can be redirected to classrooms. Currently, only 61% of school operating budgets goes directly toward instruction and learning.

In 2007, I expect to see many more school issues brought forth. The most visible of those is full-day kindergarten. Most states now fully or partially fund all-day kindergarten (FDK). Experts agree that the additional hours of

learning FDK offers puts children further ahead when they enter first grade. That allows elementary teachers to spend less time playing catch-up and more time introducing new subject matter.

Funding FDK is estimated to cost around \$140 million and our past budget woes have delayed its implementation. But, thanks to smart spending in the 2005 budget, some believe there is enough cash available to fund FDK.

Other education issues that could be discussed include performance-based pay for teachers, school choice, school board elections, accountability in higher education, and increased emphasis on Core 40. I look forward to these debates and will continue to cast my votes with the best interest of students at heart.

Rejuvenate. Reenergize. Relax.

— Tourism boosts Indiana's growing economy —

Rejuvenate, Reenergize and Relax. This is the theme behind Indiana's new slogan: Restart Your Engines.

Millions of tourists visit Indiana every year for the Indianapolis 500, the Allstate 400 at the Brickyard and the U.S. Grand Prix. Naturally, Indiana's identity is synonymous with motor sports, not only in the United States, but worldwide, earning the state the familiar moniker "Motor Sports Capital of the World."

Indiana offers far more, however, than just motor sports. The Indiana Office of Tourism has gone to great lengths to give Hoosiers and outside visitors a picture of what a successful vacation should be-- the chance to relax and take in all

Indiana has to offer. From 93 county fairs, to the 150th annual Indiana State Fair in August, there is rarely a week that goes by without an exciting event.

Already, approximately 59 million tourists spend nearly \$9 billion in Indiana each year. Studies show that tourists spend almost seven times more money than the ticket face value of the event they are in town to attend. This has led to the creation of more

than 264,000 tourism related jobs statewide. It is my hope that the new state slogan will persuade even more tourists to find out what Indiana has to offer, bringing with them dollars that may help boost our economy.



Sen. Paul visits with Boy Scout Troop #114 of Richmond during their annual summer camp-out in Versailles.

More information regarding the new Indiana state slogan and a statewide list of summer events and activities can be found online at www.visitindiana.com.

Defending the Right to Bear Arms

New laws protect rights of law-abiding citizens

"The people shall have a right to bear arms, for the defense of themselves and the State."

Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution grants us the freedom to own firearms and store them in our homes. I have always been a firm supporter of our 2nd Amendment rights and would like to tell you about two new laws that protect law-abiding gun owners.

The General Assembly passed legislation this year to simplify the handgun licensing process. Previously, everyone with a handgun license was required to have their permit updated and be fingerprinted every four years — even people who have had such a license all of their adult lives. There aren't too many unchanging things in our lives, but one of those is our fingerprints. The state finally acknowledged that licensed gun owners are law abiding citizens who should not be forced through this arbitrary and cumbersome process every four years.

The Indiana State Police issues about 80,000 gun permits per year; this measure will reduce that number and make the process much more efficient. Safety is still a top priority and law en-

forcement officers will continue to revoke licenses as necessary.

These small, sensible changes are a great improvement of the current system and make the licensing procedure much more efficient.

In addition, the Legislature added to statute something that is already widely accepted as case law. The "Stand Your Ground" law does basically three things to protect those who are protecting themselves.

It establishes the presumption that a criminal who forcibly enters or intrudes into your home or occupied vehicle is there to cause death or great bodily harm; therefore a person may use any manner of force, including deadly force, against that person.

It removes the "duty to retreat" if you are attacked in any place you have a right to be. You no longer have to turn your back on a criminal

and try to run when attacked. Instead, you may stand your ground and fight back, meeting force with force, including deadly force, if you reasonably believe it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to yourself or others.

It provides that persons using force authorized by law shall not be prosecuted for using such force. It also prohibits criminals and their families from suing victims for injuring or killing the criminals who have attacked them. In short, it gives rights back to law-abiding people.

We felt it necessary to add these statutes to make the law in such situations perfectly clear—Hoosiers have the right to defend themselves and their families.

I am pleased we were able to accomplish these things in defense of our Constitution and for Hoosier gun owners.

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— Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution